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Cogan et al.

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[54] DISCHARGE CHUTE WITH VARIABLE SLOPE BOTTOM FOR FRAGILE ARTICLE SORTING SYSTEM

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198/560; 209/580; 209/639; 209/924

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[57] ABSTRACT

An optical inspection machine has a discharge chute provided for receiving fragile articles thrown from a high speed belt in the course of ejecting such articles. The chute has an "S"-shaped bottom with the top of the "S" under the trajectory of the ejected articles, the mid portion of the "S" positioned to receive the falling articles at a minimum impact angle, and the bottom of the "S" discharging the sliding articles after being significantly decelerated due to the variable slope of the "S"-shaped chute bottom. The inspection machine has another "S"-shaped chute for receiving articles from an infeed conveyor and transferring them to the high speed belt while minimizing deceleration.

5 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

